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EXAMINER	
ART. UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
HENDERSON, M. 4	

DATE MAILED 5/22

01/18/00

Please find below a communication from the EXAMINER in charge of this application.

Commissioner of Patents

*IN RESPONSE TO THE RESTRICTION ELECTION OF
CLAIMS 1-40 WHICH MAY IN TURN PROVOKE AN INTERFERENCE,
THE EXAMINER HAS SUBMITTED AN OFFICE LETTER*

Art Unit: 3722

MISCELLANEOUS OFFICE LETTER

Faxing of Responses to Office Letters

In order to reduce pendency and avoid potential delays, TC 3700 is encouraging FAXing of responses to Office Letters directly into the Group at (703)305-3579. This practice may be used for filing papers which require a fee by applicants who authorize charges to a PTO deposit account. Please identify the examiner and art unit at the top of your cover sheet. Papers submitted via FAX into TC 3700 will be promptly forwarded to the examiner.

Election/Restriction

1. Applicant's election without traverse of Claims 1-40 is acknowledged.

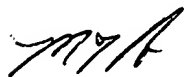
Art Unit: 3722

Interference

In order for an applicant to have an interference declared between an application and an unexpired patent, the applicant must comply with Patent Rules 1.607 a(1-6) and b. The applicant must respond within one month of the mailing date of this letter.

Contact Information

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Mark T. Henderson whose telephone number is (703)305-0189. The examiner can be reached on Monday - Friday from 7:30 AM to 3:45 PM. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner supervisor, A. L. Pitts, can be reached on (703) 308-2159. The fax number for TC 3700 is (703)305-3579. Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application or proceeding should be directed to the TC 3700 receptionist whose telephone number is (703)308-1148.



MTH

January 4, 2000



Andrea L. Pitts
Supervisory Patent Examiner
Group 3700